10-Minute Walk Campaign
National Study Visit
Lewisville, Texas

March 27 - 29, 2019
URBAN LAND INSTITUTE

Mission: Provide leadership in the responsible use of land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities worldwide

Membership: Over 42,000 members globally, comprised of land use professionals (developers, designers, financial services, public sector)
Everyone, in every neighborhood, in every city in America has a high-quality park or public green space within a 10-minute walk of home.

Over 220 mayors have joined since October 2017.
Lewisville, Texas

60.4%

Current percentage of residents living within a 10 minute walk to a park.
National Experts

- **Cate Townley (Chair)**
  Senior Built Environment Specialist, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, *Denver, Colorado*

- **Isabel Domeyko**
  Managing Member and Northern California Leader, New Economics and Advisory, *Roseville, California*

- **Adrian B. Engel, PE, LEED AP**
  Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers, *Sacramento, California*

- **Clement Lau, AICP**
  Departmental Facilities Planner, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, *Los Angeles, California*

- **TJ McCourt, AICP**
  Planning Supervisor, City of Raleigh Parks Department, *Raleigh, North Carolina*

- **Jared Mummert**
  Program Specialist, National Recreation and Parks Association, *Ashburn, VA*

- **Molly Plummer**
  Parks for People Program Manager, Trust for Public Land, *Dallas, Texas*

- **James Rojas**
  Founder, PLACE IT!, *Los Angeles, California*

- **Cassie Wright**
  Founder and President, Urban Milestones, LLC, *Amarillo, Texas*
National Study Visit Process

- Briefing materials
- Tour of the study area
- Stakeholder interviews
- Develop actionable recommendations
- Public Presentation
Special Thanks to the Local Planning Group!

- Karen Locke, 2025 Committee
- Becky Nelson, Chin Community Ministries
- Andres Barbara, Code Inspection, City of Lewisville
- Travis Ersch, Building Inspections, City of Lewisville
- Jason Moore, Economic Development, City of Lewisville
- Meredith Mote, Fire Inspections, City of Lewisville
- Andrew Park, Health, City of Lewisville
- Prit Patel, Neighborhood Services, City of Lewisville
- Stacie Anaya, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Lewisville
- Michele Berry, Planning Department, City of Lewisville
- Captain Butterworth, Police Department, City of Lewisville
- Keith Marvin, Public Services, City of Lewisville
- Wanda Echevarria, Lewisville Elementary, LISD
- Dawn Shapley, Next Steps Center
- Mary Ellen Miksa, Planning and Zoning Member
- Casey Dunn, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member
- Karl Zavitovsky, Enterprise Bridge USA
- Pam Stein and Amber Crawford, ULI - North Texas
The Study Area
1. Identify **creative opportunities to increase connectivity** to existing parks, greenbelts and/or open space in or near the triangle? What strategies can be employed to enhance equity at new or existing connections?

2. Identify opportunities to **convert existing** City of Lewisville **drainage right-of-way, easements and/or open space** in or near the triangle to parks or trails. What **placemaking strategies** can be employed to create community gathering and activity opportunities.

3. What are the successful **community processes** to engage the wide range of stakeholders for creating strategies for improving the 10MWP ratios in the triangle?

4. What **investment and partnership strategies** can Lewisville employ to encourage **existing businesses** and multi-family residential units improve connectivity to existing parks, greenbelts and open space in or near the triangle?

5. What **incentive** or **regulatory approaches** can Lewisville employ to **spark redevelopment of properties** near the northern corner of the triangle and encourage the inclusion of parks, open space and trails?
Study Questions from Lewisville, Texas

6. The triangle is within an **Opportunity Zone**, how can the City leverage/market that to potential developers for redevelopment of multifamily housing to include public spaces?

7. What strategies can be employed to **fund infill sidewalk and trail projects on undeveloped property**, or property that was developed prior to the requirement for sidewalk construction. Is there a way to fund the infill with public funds and recover the cost from property owners?

8. What are **creative ways to engage the population** in this area which is predominantly made up of multi-housing units and **Spanish speaking residents**? We want to ensure the **community and cultural needs** of the residents are represented in the 10MWP triangle.

9. What are creative strategies for **employing micro-parks** in areas where larger open spaces are not achievable? Can the **amenities** of public spaces **be incorporated into the connectivity** elements to create spaces that function as both?
First Impressions of Lewisville

- Very engaged and passionate staff
- City leadership is committed to the 10-Minute Walk vision
- Residents deeply value parks
- Lots of natural community assets
- Community partners are willing to help
- Ready for action!
Key Opportunities for Lewisville

- **Community Engagement**
  - Stronger Together
  - Create social cohesion and stewardship

- **Park Planning and Services**
  - Achieve 100% Park Access
  - Activate existing spaces

- **Connections and access**
  - Stitch the community together
  - Create walking and biking connections

- **Funding and Investment Partners**
  - Leverage partnerships to foster development
  - Create a sense of place

Photo credit: Adrian Engel
Equity

- Equity is... when everyone, regardless of who they are or where they come from has the opportunity to thrive.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Health Equity
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Community Engagement: Prioritize Inclusion

By meeting people where they are – physically, socially and mentally – community engagement can be a tool to promote: inclusion, social cohesion, a greater sense of belonging, and empowerment.
Community Engagement: Think outside the box

Creative strategies can involve:

- Engaging the heart, hands, and head
- Embracing story-building
- Using visual, spatial and emotional cues

Photo Credit: James Rojas
Community Engagement Tool: Art-Making

Helps transforms ideas and emotions into physical realities by asking participants to...

- Imagine
- Construct
- Present
- Reflect

*Dream big, you’re in Texas!*
Community Engagement Tool: Play/Brainstorming

- Relaxes participants (no concept of failure)
- Inquiry & experimentation
- Removes barriers and promotes collaboration
Community Engagement: Possible Outcomes

- Builds trust
- Helps reframe planning
- Promotes listening, learning and collaboration
- Encourages self-determination
PARK PLANNING & SERVICES
Strategies

- Increase the number of parks by studying opportunities for greater trail connectivity
- Engage community in design process
- Use innovative short-term/temporary park solutions to bridge current park access gap
Park Planning: Approach

- Invest in various park types
  - Community Parks
  - Green Centerpiece Nature Park
  - Signature Community Plaza Park
  - Temporary Parks and Pop-Ups

- Programming Considerations
  - Community Gathering Spaces
  - Health & Fitness Programming
  - Everyday Hangout Areas
  - Nature Programming
  - Play and Activities for Both Children and Older Youth
Park Planning: What Could New Parks Look Like?

- 3 New Community Parks
- 2 Signature Parks
  - One Addition as an Extension of the Green Centerpiece
  - One Signature Park Designed to Serve as the “Community Plaza”
- 1 Schoolyard-to-Park Opportunity

Photo Courtesy of D.A. Horchner/Design Workshop
Park Planning: Next Steps and Considerations

- Implement quick, volunteer driven park solution where possible
- Land Acquisition and Design for select sites
- Consider Mid-Term and Long-Term Park Creation
- Community Land Trusts and Non-Profit Management
- Funding and Support from Future Lewisville Parks Foundation
- Encourage Public Access to Private Greenspaces through Policy or Incentives
- Think about Innovative and Short Term Solutions

Photo credits: unsplash
Providing Park and Recreation Services
Development of Micro or Pocket Parks

- There is limited vacant land available in the study area
- Land acquisition can be a costly and lengthy process
- Park size is not always important provided that the park offers an amenity or amenities that meet community needs such as basketball courts, soccer/futsal courts, and playgrounds
- Examples: City of Los Angeles 50 Parks Initiative, L.A. City and County Partnerships with local land trusts
Providing Park and Recreation Services

Temporary Street Closures for Recreation

- Closing some streets for recreational activities temporarily can also create additional opportunities for physical activity
- This can be a quick and low-cost way to create active play spaces for children
- Example: CicLAvia in Los Angeles, Play Street Program in New York City

Photo credit: Ciclavia

Photo credit: NYC Parks
Providing Park and Recreation Services

Mobile Recreation

- Mobile recreation is a means to bring more resources to the study area
- Portable soccer goals, basketball hoops, and skateboard ramps may be placed on vacant or parking lots on a regular basis or at special events
- This can also take the form of vans that bring exercise and play equipment to the community
- Example: Mobile Recreation Vans in New York City

**Play Mobiles**
Play Mobiles are stocked with games and toys and are most suitable for children.

**Fitness Mobiles**
Fitness Mobiles come with exercise equipment and instructors for physical activity on-the-go.

Photo credit: NYC Parks
Providing Park and Recreation Services
Transportation to Outside Parks and Recreational Amenities

- Residents without cars are less likely and less able to visit parks outside their neighborhood
- The City of Lewisville has some wonderful parks and recreational facilities such as Central Park and Lake Park
- Transporting residents, especially children, to some of these facilities is another way to address their recreation needs
- Example: Beach bus and The Link shuttle services in Los Angeles County

Photo credit: Baldwin Hills Conservancy
2,100 Housing Units

4,000+ Residents

$58K Lewisville, TX Median Household Income

$35K Study Area Median Household Income

24% Under 16
1. Stream Beautification
2. Pedestrian Passages
3. Community Visioning
4. Trail Design & Construction
5. Network Integration

Timber Creek
Linear Park
1. Create walkable park access for 4,000 people (+ 4%!)  

2. **Equity**: Prioritizing investment in communities where it will have the biggest impact
Quantifying Equity
Measuring Project Impact
Quantifying Equity
Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic
Quantifying Equity
Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate's or Bachelor's
Quantifying Equity
Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate's or Bachelor's

6%
Unemployment
Quantifying Equity
Measuring Project Impact

- 71.5% Non-White/Hispanic
- 26.1% Associate's or Bachelor's
- 6% Unemployment
- $35,000 Median HH Income
Quantifying Equity
Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate’s or Bachelor’s

6%
Unemployment

$35,000
Median HH Income

406
Children in Poverty
Next Steps and Considerations

▪ Short-Term
  ▪ Initiate community engagement activities centered around greenspace
  ▪ Start creek clean-up initiatives
  ▪ Use temporary and pop-up parks

▪ Mid-Term
  ▪ Consider planning and design for longer-term solutions
  ▪ Work with outside partners like a Lewisville Parks Foundation to fund projects
  ▪ Continue organizing community groups and empowering residents to “own” greenspaces

▪ Long-Term
  ▪ Implement the vision, build parks and trails based on a community plan
  ▪ Connect the study area to the rest of the city through parks and trails
CONNECTIONS & ACCESS
Leverage Regional Transportation Projects
Provide access with TxDOT projects

- Corporate Drive and Bus-121 / I-35 Interchange Improvements
- Incorporate quality pedestrian and bicycle facilities similar to Lake Park Road
- Retrofit existing city streets to provide access for people walking and biking

Source: Google Maps - Nov. 2018
Connections
Complete Streets

- Add a shared use path on the north side of Corporate Drive

- Add continuous wide separated sidewalks on both sides of Business 121
Access: Stitching the Project Area
Create access to accommodate people of all ages and abilities

- Perform a Road Safety Audit for Business 121
- Apply proven safety measures as recommended by FHWA such as high visibility crossings with appropriate signal crossing times for children
- Perform a technical study for new signal or Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) at McCart Drive
- Evaluate a grade separated crossing over Business 121 at Lewisville Elementary
Connections & Access: Building Healthy Corridors

ULI Case Study: Aurora Avenue North - Shoreline, Washington

Photo credit: City of Shoreline (before)

Photo credit: City of Shoreline (after)
Connections & Access: Safe Routes to School

Educate and Encourage families to walk to school

- Create a Safe Routes to School committee with LISD, City of Lewisville, community members
- Apply for SRTS funds through NTCOG
- Develop a Safe Routes to School Plan
- Celebrate Walk to School Day
- Educate students and parents on traffic safety
- Plan a monthly Walking School Bus

Photo by: Green-Schools CC BY-NC-SA 2.0
FUNDING & INVESTMENT PARTNERS
Near-Term Recommendations

Leverage existing programs and relationships

- Coordinate with LISD and others to leverage safe routes to schools $$
- Support creation of parks foundation for future private donations and grants
- Cooperate with local non-profits and/or property owners to apply for existing funding programs
  - Love Your Block
  - Property Enhancement Grants
- Create relationships with local business owners to sponsor creek clean up efforts
- Opportunity Zone - ?
Mid-Term Recommendations

Work with private sector partners

- Build relationships with large Lewisville businesses
- Explore opportunities to add publicly-accessible open spaces on privately-owned sites.
  - retail centers
  - residential projects
  - lodging facilities

Photo Credit: Isabel Domeyko

Photo Credit: Cassie Wright
Long-Term Recommendations:
Integrate strategies for multiple “Big Moves” identified in Lewisville 2025 vision.

- Implement Lewisville 2025 vision for central node at Business 121 and IH 35E (Big Move #7).
  - Consider forming a new TIF (such as a barbell TIF), PID, and/or market tax credits
  - Implement funding mechanisms before interchange upgrades are completed.
- Allocate funding to park/trail improvements (Big Move #2)
- Include affordable housing program to ensure long-term mixed income development (Big Move #4).
- Look to include a variety of densities and types (Big Move #5).

Source: Lewisville 2025 Vision. www.cityoflewisville.com
Long-Term Recommendations
Creating a Destination/Sense of Place for the Area

- Co-development opportunities to incorporate signature park
  - Acquire or form development partnership(s)

- Link to Timber Creek where possible

- Involve adjacent multi-family property owners
  - Land donations/access for plaza amenity
  - Shared parking agreements
  - Access easements between properties to create neighborhood trail network

Photos Courtesy of Cassie Wright
Summary Next Steps

- **Community Engagement**
  - Engage through hands-on activities and pop-ups
  - Continue to foster partnerships
  - More active engagement with the school

- **Park Planning and Services**
  - Host pop-up park event within one year
  - Conduct Timber Creek clean-up, with a minimum of 10 residents of the study area participating
  - Evaluate priority projects using equity impact metrics

- **Connections and Access**
  - Coordinate with the DOT for multimodal connections
  - Work with school and city on safe routes to school program

- **Create a Destination**
  - Leverage existing programs
  - Engage with the hotels and existing commercial/multifamily
Thank You
Questions and Comments?